

I am largely indebted to you my much valued correspondent for many letters received in the last four months, to not one of which have I been able to send you a line in return; no vessels have gone from this Quarter since December last -

I join my congratulations with every real friend of America upon the safe and Honorable peace obtained for our Country, thanks be to Heaven, and to the firmness, wisdom and integrity of our negotiators - "I pursue the triumph, and partake the gale" with a satisfaction that neither the envy of some, or the secret malice of others can rob me of - Do you recollect a letter of plinys to Hippella which you will find in the 7<sup>th</sup> vol<sup>m</sup> of the Spectator? It is expressive of what I have often felt, to that I refer you for a true description of an affectionate wife participating in the glory and reputation of her Husband -

Last evening your favour of November 20 was delivered me, and have I really puzzled you? are you anxious to know who the Eliza is that wore your miniature? as I have obtained my end; which was to tease you a little, in return for your Ideal Fair American, I will state facts - your sisters had sent to Eliza C. L. your miniature to shew to one, & she put it upon her chest - no further do you mind; & came to see if I knew it, I caught the opportunity of requiting you in your own way - I know not whether any of your female acquaintance after your comments: which I really think just, would wear your portrait, but I know several who have friendship enough for you, to retain you in their hearts -

I do not see why a subject which appears from all your letters to have taken such a full possession of your mind, should ~~appear~~ <sup>become</sup> to you so impracticable,



return with peace to your native Land, set yourself down with a  
fixed resolution to pursue your profession, and I dare say success will  
crown your endeavours — there is more good to be done on life, says a  
judicious observer of humane nature, by obstinate diligence and  
perseverance, than most people seem aware of. the Ant and Bee  
are but little and weak animals; and yet, by constant application  
they do wonders — it is an observation of plinys that no mans abilities  
are so remarkably shining, as not to stand in need, of a proper oppor-  
-tunity, a patron, and even the promises of a friend to recommend  
them to the notice of the world — your merit I dare say has secured to  
you the two latter, nor need you despair of the ~~former~~ when you  
return to a Country you have already done honour to —

Heaven has yet in store for you  
some sweet female companion to smooth the rugged road of life, and  
sweeten the bitter cup — indeed you shall not live single — the greatest  
Authority pronounced that it was not good for man to be alone —

your Hingham friends are all well  
and expect your return with impatience — I cannot tell you much  
news of the domestic kind, some persons say that your friend Mr  
Guild is taken with the Quincy, I hope he will do well — tho it is  
a mortal complaint — with regard to my coming to Europe. Mr A's  
letter of Febry 18 is so explicit with regard to his return that I shall  
not attempt it, even tho Congress appoint him to the Court of  
Britain, which tis said will be done — Mr Smith has been waiting  
to know whether I should go or not — as he has been kind enough to  
offer me his protection — Common Sense gave him to me for a son  
this last winter, who then so proper to conduct the Mother and daughter  
abroad in the absence of the Father — tis true he was politely attentive  
to Amelia this winter gave her a ticket to the assembly & attended  
her there through the season, which you know is sufficient for  
the world to unite them for life — Mr Smith is a gentleman of



a fair and amiable character and I sincerely wish him happily  
connected altho his attempts have never yet been successfull, by no  
means equal to his merit — adieu I am hurried to death to close, here  
is a messenger for my letter and I have not time to give it a second  
perusal so excuse every inaccuracy & believe me most

affectionately your friend  
Postia

April 29 1782



M<sup>rs</sup> Adams  
29<sup>th</sup> April 1783.  
- Rec<sup>d</sup>. 26. August 1787.

Dans

Mr John Thaxter

210

ms Am 229 (181)

ms 1212 (2)